

FACT SHEET

State of Tennessee Economic & Community Development

Title VI

What is Title VI?

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides as follows:

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

- How does Title VI affect my county, city, community or business?

State agencies, local or municipal government entities, educational institutions, for profit and non-profit corporations and institutions that receive federal financial assistance are subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987. According to the Tennessee Attorney General, state and local governmental agencies that administer federally funded programs are required to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and all applicable federal regulations. The Attorney General concluded that under certain circumstances federal authorities may refuse to grant or continue federal financial assistance for failure to comply with Title VI and its regulations. Therefore, all state and local agencies in Tennessee which administer federally funded programs are advised to use their best efforts in complying with Title VI and all other federal regulations applicable to the administration of such programs

Our Policy

It is the policy of the Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) that no person, as part of a federally protected class, shall be subjected to discrimination, excluded from participation in or be denied benefits of any federally funded program or activity as provided by federal law, including, but not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. ECD will make every effort to ensure that all programs and activities are free of discrimination.

How to file a Complaint

If you apply for, or receive, any benefit or service provided by ECD, or by any agency receiving assistance from ECD, you may file a complaint if you believe you have received unfair or different treatment because of your race, color or national origin. Complaints may be filed in person, in writing or by telephone, but must be filed within 180 days of alleged unfair treatment. Complaints may be filed with:

State of Tennessee
Department of Economic & Community Development
William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Ninth Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-0405

Brigitte Tubbs-Jones, Title VI Coordinator
Phone: (615) 253-2195
Fax: (615) 532-5139

Complaints may also be filed with:

Tennessee Human Rights Commission
Central Office
Andrew Johnson Building, Suite 100
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1219

M. J. Thomas
Title VI Compliance Program Director
Phone: (615) 741-5285
Fax: (615) 253-1886

Complaints filed by persons other than applicants, recipients or beneficiaries must give the name and location of the person for whom the complaint is being made.

Each complaint will be investigated promptly. If you file a complaint, you will be notified of the findings, and corrective action will be taken immediately as needed.

The Title VI Complaint Form can be accessed [here](#).

Limited English Proficiency

Our policy: Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) will take reasonable steps to ensure that persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access and an equal opportunity to participate in our programs, services, activities and other benefits. The policy of ECD is to ensure meaningful communication with person that experience LEP and their authorized representatives. This policy also provides for communication of information contained in vital documents, including, but not limited to, grants and contracts as well as other agreements. All interpreters, translators and other aids necessary to comply with this policy shall be provided at cost to the state.

Grantees will keep a record of any communications with persons of LEP and will notify ECD of those communications. If assistance is needed, contact ECD for translation or interpretive services.

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